

Dear FCC:

I was appalled when I read in the Washington Post that Sinclair Broadcasting is forcing their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. I am a liberal, but I would be equally upset if the stations were required to broadcast a liberal documentary. Here's why.

Local stations exist to serve the public interest. After all, they use the public airwaves. Partisan electioneering is not in the public interest. If political issues are put onto the airwaves, equal time should be given to all candidates (and that means Greens, Libertarians, and others, as well as Democrats and Republicans). We need a diversity of voices in order to truly understand and respond to the problems that face our society.

I am very disturbed by the trend toward large news conglomerates. This trend stifles independent voices. Sinclair's actions show why a communications monopoly is dangerous. Media ownership rules need to be strengthened. Sinclair's plans show why the license renewal process needs to be evaluated and reformed.

Thank you.

Aimee Doyle